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Agenda item 64 (a)
Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Iceland, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and Uruguay: draft resolution

Combating bullying and other types of violence against children

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[1] constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and emphasizing that the States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein,

Reaffirming all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child and its resolution 68/130 of 18 December 2013 on policies and programmes involving youth,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 19/37 on the rights of the child, adopted by the Council in 2012,

Recalling that the World Programme of Action for Youth[2] stressed the need to develop physical and social environments that promote good health free from all types of violence and recommended that Governments and other relevant organizations sensitize youth to the personally and socially detrimental effects of violence in the family, community and society,

Acknowledging that the United Nations report on violence against children of 2006[3] was the first comprehensive global study on violence against children,

Bearing in mind that the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, entitled "Tackling violence in schools: a global perspective: bridging the gap between standards and practice", launched on

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[2] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.
[3] United Nations Children's Fund, Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, Independent Expert for the United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children; available at www.unicef.org.

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6 March 2012, stressed the importance of promoting a change in attitudes of adults, families and wider communities to tackle bullying and cyberbullying at schools, as a means to strengthen the child's capacity to enjoy the full range of human rights,

Taking note with appreciation of the 2014 report of the United Nations Children's Fund on violence against children, entitled "Hidden in plain sight: a statistical analysis of violence against children", which highlighted the global nature of violence among peers, bullying and cyberbullying and their negative long-term effects on the well-being of children,

Stressing that bullying and cyberbullying, expressed through verbal abuse, intimidation, humiliation, sexual abuse, gang violence and other forms of cruel and degrading treatment, have a deep impact on the enjoyment of the human rights of girls, boys and young people,

Aware of the urgent need to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against children and youth, including bullying and cyberbullying, and recognizing that these attitudes take place particularly at school, but are also influenced by events in the wider community such as families and other environments,

Recognizing that bullying is a reflection of the existence of wider violent environments that affect the behaviour of children, and recognizing the important role of media and civil society in its prevention,

Recognizing also that girls are often at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering bullying and cyberbullying as an expression of gender-based violence,

1. *Expresses profound concern* about the high prevalence of violence between peers, bullying and cyberbullying in different parts of the world, and their negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights of girls, boys and young people;

2. *Recognizes* that bullying and cyberbullying are often associated with discrimination and stereotypes, and that attention must be paid to prevent all forms of discrimination, including discrimination against girls and young women, children with disabilities, migrant children, indigenous children and children belonging to minorities;

3. *Urges* Member States:

(a) To take all necessary and effective child and youth-sensitive measures to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, in particular violence between peers, bullying and cyberbullying;

(b) To generate comprehensive statistical information disaggregated by sex, age, disability, national or social origin on the problem of bullying, as a basis for the elaboration of effective public policies;

(c) To mobilize public awareness, involving families, communities and civil society organizations, with the participation of children and young people, regarding peer violence, bullying and cyberbullying, with a gender perspective;

(d) To establish and strengthen mechanisms, including with appropriate support of international cooperation, upon request, with the effective participation of children and youth, for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation relating to matters that affect them, including measures to tackle bullying and cyberbullying;

4. *Requests* the relevant United Nations agencies and mechanisms to provide, upon request from Member States, technical cooperation and support to enhance national capacities to address bullying and cyberbullying;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through his Special Representative on Violence against Children, to prepare, in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund and in collaboration with Member States and other relevant stakeholders, a report on bullying and cyberbullying and their causes and effects, which contains recommendations, good practices and guidelines to prevent and respond to this problem;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit the report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session.